

Appl. No.: 09/687,727  
Amdt. dated: September 16, 2003  
Reply to Office action of 08/28/2003

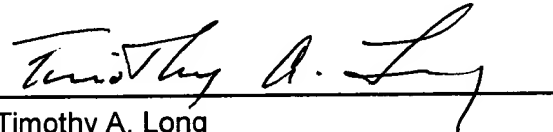
**REMARKS / ARGUMENTS**

In response to the Office action of August 28, 2003, the applicant elects Group I comprising claims 1-6 and 13-16.

Please cancel claims 7-12 and 17-18 without prejudice.

The applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes that for any reason direct contact with applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,  
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